

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 00897 211855Z

64

ACTION L-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 EA-06 IO-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INR-05 CIAE-00 OIC-01 DPW-01 DODE-00 PM-03 SP-02

SAM-01 SAJ-01 RSC-01 /053 W
----- 112688

R 211733Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9118

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL FLORENCE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USUN USMISSION NEW YORK 2368

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 0897

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, ICRC, VN, US

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT SECOND SESSION OF CONFERENCE ON LAW
OF WAR

REF: STATE 8673

SUMMARY. GOI APPEARS LIKELY SUPPORT US VIEW IN PROCEDURAL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 00897 211855Z

VOTES RELATIVE TO PRG PARTICIPATION IN LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE.

IF, HOWEVER, VOTE ON SUBSTANCE OF THE QUESTION IS REACHED, ITALY MAY NOT BE WILLING TO OPPOSE PARTICIPATION BY PRG. GOI POSITION HAS YET TO BE DETERMINED AND WILL BE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY ATTITUDES OF OTHER EC STATES. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH GOI FONMIN AT OFFICE DIRECTOR AND VICE DIRECTOR GENERAL (GARDINI, POLITICAL AFFAIRS) LEVELS CONCERNING QUESTION OF PRG PARTICIPATION IN REFERENCED CONFERENCE. FONMINISTRY WOULD PREFER THE PROBLEM NOT ARISE, BUT BELIEVES IT WILL. IF PROCEDURAL VOTE IS NO RULING FROM THE CHAIR THAT RULE 31 (TWO-THIRDS VOTE) APPLIES, GOI WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE IN SUPPORTING. IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, CHAIR RULES THAT RULE 35 (MAJORITY VOTE) PERTAINS, GOI MIGHT BE RELUCTANT TO SUPPORT A CHALLENGE FROM THE FLOOR, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT FONMIN CAN BE LINED UP TO SUPPORT US IN THIS EVENTUALITY.

2. ON THE QUESTION OF SUBSTANCE, GARDINI TOLD POL COUNSELOR THAT ITALY'S ABSTENTION THIS ISSUE LAST FEBRUARY NOT CASUAL. THEN-FOREIGN MINISTER MORO FELT THAT THE QUOTE HUMANITARIAN SUBJECT MATTER UNQUOTE OF THE CONFERENCE ARGUED FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE PRG WHICH IS INVOLVED IN A MAJOR ARMED CONFLICT. MORO OBSERVED THAT WELL-KNOWN ARGUMENTS ALSO MADE GOOD CASE FOR WITHHOLDING SUPPORT FROM PFR PARTICIPATION, AND THAT LOGICAL COURSE THEREFORE WOULD BE TO ABSTAIN. GARDINI AND OFFICE DIRECTORS SAID THAT THE ONE ABSTENTION DOES NOT NECESSARILY PRESAGE ANOTHER, BUT COUNSELOR PISANI (UN AFFAIRS) IMPLIED THAT CURRENT FOREIGN MINISTER RUMOR WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO REVERSE MORO'S DECISION. IF RUMOR IS TO BE BROUGHT AROUND, PISANI SAID, QUOTE POWERFUL ARGUMENTS UNQUOTE WILL HAVE TO BE ADDUCED.

3. PISANI FELT THE ITALIAN NEGATIVE VOTE IN AUGUST, 1974 ON PRG PARTICIPATION IN THE ICRC CONFERENCE ON WEAPONS WAS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH EARLIER (FEBRUARY, 1974) ABSTENTION ON PRG ROLE IN LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE, SINCE THE TWO DIFFERED IN SUBJECT MATTER. GARDINI AND OTHERS MADE A CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN PRG ISSUE AS AT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ROME 00897 211855Z

LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE ON ONE HAND AND AT WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION CONGRESS (STATE 10509, STATE 12513) ON THE OTHER. THEY FELT GOI WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY OPPOSING PRG OBSERVER STATUS IN LATTER (SEPTTEL).

4. OFFICE DIRECTOR LO PRINZI (EA POLITICAL) EMPHASIZED THAT POSITIONS TAKEN BY OTHER EC MEMBERS WILL IMPACT HEAVILY ON ITALIAN DECISION.

5. COMMENT . EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE
SUBJECT WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY. IN MEANTIME, HOWEVER, WE
NOTE THAT GOI WOULD FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE AS PART OF A CLEAR
EC MINORITY (E.G., WITH FRANCE AND NO MORE THAN ONE OTHER)
IN DE FACTO SUPPORT OF PRG ROLE. IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT
THOSE EC STATES OPPOSED TO PRG REPRESENTATION WILL MAKE
THEIR VIEWS PROMPTLY AND FIRMLY KNOWN TO GOI. WE PROPOSE
NOT TO SUGGEST GOI COORDINATE WITH SAN MARINO ON PRG
PARTICIPATION LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE UNLESS AND UNTIL GOI
POSITION TURNS FAVORABLE. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, LAW, WAR, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME00897
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750023-0290
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750133/aaaabdge.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 8673
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRG ISSUE AT SECOND SESSION OF CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, VN, US, ICRC, PRG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006